

# Hunting and Trapping Emergency Order

Under the Authority of AS 16.05.060

Alaska Department  
of Fish and Game

**Emergency Order** 05-03-05

**Issued at** Bethel, Alaska  
July 12, 2005

**Effective Date:** 12:01 a.m.  
July 13, 2005

**Expiration Date:** 11:59 p.m. June 30, 2006  
unless superseded by subsequent  
emergency order.

## **EXPLANATION:**

This emergency order closes the resident moose season during the 2005–2006 regulatory year within Unit 18 south of and including the Goodnews River drainage. There are no nonresident moose seasons within this area and the federal moose season is also closed.

All other moose seasons and bag limits in Unit 18 remain unchanged and are not affected by this emergency order.

## **REGULATION:**

Therefore, the following regulations in **5 AAC 85.045 (a) (16) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE** pertaining to **Unit 18** are superseded by this emergency order, as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident	Nonresident
	Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Open Season
(16)		

Unit 18, easterly of a line from the mouth of the Ishkowik River to the closest point of Dall Lake to the easternmost point of Takslesluk Lake, then along the Kuskokwim River drainage boundary to the Unit 18 border, and north of and including the Eek River drainage, and that portion south of and including the Goodnews River drainage

No open season.

No open season.

Unit 18, that portion south of the Eek River drainage and north of the Goodnews River drainage

1 bull per regulatory year

Sept. 1–Sept. 30  
A 10-day winter season  
may be announced

No open season.

Remainder of Unit 18

1 bull per regulatory year

Sept. 1–Sept. 30  
A 10-day winter season  
may be announced

Sept. 1–Sept. 30

McKie Campbell

Commissioner

By delegation to:



Roger Seavoy  
Area Biologist

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

Radiotelemetry data and recent moose surveys conducted by Togiak National Wildlife Refuge staff and local residents document that moose are beginning to colonize the Goodnews River drainage from the Togiak River drainage where a substantial moose population has recently become established. A cooperative public effort has been conducted to encourage this range expansion and an agreement on a strategy to establish a moose population in the Goodnews River drainage has been reached with the villages of Goodnews Bay and Platinum. This moose season closure is part of that strategy.

The moose habitat within this river drainage is considered to be very good to excellent but is generally vacant. Similar sized habitats in the adjacent Togiak River drainage support over 800 moose whereas only 22 moose were observed during a recent survey in the Goodnews River drainage and this represents the highest number ever recorded. Clearly, the moose habitat within the Goodnews River drainage is severely underutilized. Closing the hunting season will allow colonization and expansion of the moose population in this portion of Unit 18.